



MONTGOMERY BELL ACADEMY 4001 HARDING ROAD, NASHVILLE, TN 37205
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Sleepy Hollow is a Hit!

By Easton Ice

This year's Junior School play was *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*, directed by Mr. Nelson Berry and Mrs. Gracie Bassett. The play starred Henry Bohman as Ichabod Crane. Carter Plato as Brom Bones, and Brazier Pierce as Katrina Van Tassel.

Ichabod Crane is quite the book worm and prefers to indulge himself in a book rather than socialize with people. He also runs a very tight classroom. Henry Bohman plays this role well. Brom Bones is tough, but not very smart, not to mention his role includes scattered bits of humor. Mr. Plato fits this role perfectly, except for the part about being not very smart, of course. Katrina Van Tassel is a young woman from a very wealthy family. She will not allow herself, or others, for that matter, to let her walk in or even touch the mud on the ground. One could say that she is pretty self-centered. Ichabod and Brom Bones fall in love with her

nonetheless. Ms. Pierce also does an outstanding job playing this role.

This play tells the tale of a new school master, Ichabod Crane, rivaled for love by the scoundrel Brom in a small



Northeastern town called Sleepy Hollow. It is named for its tranquillity and quiet. The town is haunted, not only by the ghost of a headless horseman, but by a group of boys who are called the "Sleepy Hollow Boys."

These boys and their ring leader, Brom, constantly taunt and play tricks on their school master. One spooky night, Brom and the Sleepy Hollow Boys tell Ichabod the tale of the Headless Horseman. This makes the school master frightened out of his mind. He is constantly paranoid about the haunted village. He is even convinced by Brom that the church bridge is haunted.

Even when Ichabod falls in love with a girl of Sleepy Hollow, Katrina, Brom is competing for her love. Ichabod and Brom are always attempting to be more of a gentleman than the other to impress Katrina Van Tassel.

Katrina invites Ichabod to dance with her at her father's party and of course, he accepts. However, at the

party, Brom takes over the dance and steals Katrina from Ichabod. Katrina does not like this much, but she goes along with it anyway.

The Headless Horseman rides on Halloween night, and he is out for Ichabod's head. Ichabod attempts to run away, but it is all for not, and Ichabod will meet his demise on this fateful night. His head (a pumpkin) is found decapitated in the school yard.

This production definitely had its fair share of drama in its mere forty-five minute run time. With the competition between Ichabod and Brom, and the school master's fear, the storytellers did an outstanding job creating drama and suspense. I was caught off guard at the end of the play with the outstanding and unexpected conclusion.

Overall, I think all the actors did very well and the outcome of the play was great. I look forward to seeing another performance from these students.

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The Legend of Sleepy Hollow

A View of the Play from Backstage

By Frank Pierce

On January 23rd-25th the Junior School players put on a performance of *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*. I was among them, and all the actors and tech crew worked very hard to make this play as good as it could be. We practiced every day till 5:00 p.m., trying to get everything right. We had to do things such as learn how to do a dance, memorize all of our lines and blocking, and learn all of our tech cues in a matter of a little over a month. Everyone pitched in and played their part. We all had a ton of fun with it as well.

During the performance all the cast and crew bonded in the successes and the mistakes. Everyone said “break a leg” before the show, and everyone supported each other. We had a great turnout, and it seemed as though everyone was there. I loved playing with everyone and acting and seeing people react. There were times of chaos and confusion such as Carter Plato’s change from Brom to the Headless Horseman, and the time where the story tellers had to make up their movements for the opening scene of opening night. But through all of that, we all had a great time and it has created memories and friendships that will last a lifetime.



*William Perri, Hays Lindsey,
and David Bellet*



Mr. Nelson Barry and Henry Bohman



Brazier Pierce and Mrs. Gracie Bassett



*Olivia Kennard, Thomas Meier, and
Alexander Averbuch*

The Legend of Sleepy Hollow



Photos Courtesy of Rick Malkin



The Cast and Crew of The Legend of Sleepy Hollow

MBA and Harpeth Hall Perform at Park Manor

"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others." ~Mahatma Gandhi



Park Manor Performance

Songs and Performers:

Whit Uden, Violinist

Sarabande in G Minor by Bohm

Devil Went Down to Georgia by the Charlie Daniels Band

Partita No. 2 by Bach

Medley of Hymns

Meg Beuter, Vocals

If I Were a Bell by Jean Simmons and Marlon Brando

Margaret Bone, Vocals

It's Too Late by Carole King

Caroline Harwell, Vocals

How Sweet It Is by James Taylor

Maggie Sullivan, Vocals

Danke Schoen by Wayne Newton

Mathew Pyles, Pianist

C.H. Henry, Vocals and Guitar

Ob-La-Di, Ob-La-Da by Paul McCartney

You've Got A Friend in Me by Randy Newman

Cat's in the Hat by Harry Chapin



Science Olympiad

By John Howard

In the recent Science Olympiad Invitational, MBA came in eighth place. MBA was able to bring fifteen people to the invitational. The Science Olympiad team consists of seventh graders, eighth graders, and freshmen. Additionally, Science Olympiad can be taken as a Winter II sport. In the Science Olympiad Invitational, there were twenty seven teams and twenty four events. Each event, except for the event Experimental Design which required three people, required a pair of people. The events included Anatomy and Physiology, Boomilever, Circuit Lab, Crime Busters, Density Lab, Disease Detectives, Dynamic Planet, Elastic Launched Glider, Experimental Design, Food Science, Fossils, Game On, Heredity, Machines, Meteorology, Mission Possible, Mousetrap Vehicle, Ornithology, Ping-Pong Parachute, Reach for the Stars, Road Scholar, Water Quality, and Write It Do It. The three events that I was in were Game On, Mousetrap Vehicle, and Ping-Pong Parachute. In Game On my partner was Aiden Becker. On Mousetrap Vehicle my partner was Nathan Sinclair. Finally, on Ping-Pong Parachute my partner was Aziz Sahibnazarova.

When I got to the Invitational, my first event was Game On. Game On is a competition where you and your partner have one computer that the school provides and on this desktop you code on a program called "Scratch." On Scratch you



2019 - 2020 Science Olympiad Team

get a theme for your game and have fifty minutes to code it. In my and Aiden's group, we were making a fighting game, and the theme that we got was the theme of light. We decided to make the game about angels that shot a beam of light at the other angel. They were able to charge up their light power, and the more that they charged it up, the bigger the beam of light was. The judges did not like the game that Aiden and I had created. They ended up giving us a 17.42 out of one hundred which is twenty second out of twenty seven.

The next event I went to was the Mousetrap Vehicle event. When Nathan and I first arrived at the Invitational, we had to impound the mousetrap vehicle. Impounding the vehicle is when you take the vehicle to where it is going to be run and you leave it there so that you are unable to modify it any further. In this event you have a mousetrap-powered vehicle, and it can only be powered by the mousetrap. The mousetrap vehicle has to try and get as close to a certain target as possible. When Nathan and I arrived to the place where we were to launch the mousetrap vehicle, the judges had to first inspect it. If the mousetrap vehicle broke certain rules, it can get tiered down all the way to tier five.

When we looked over at the judges looking at the vehicle, they were all shaking their heads. We had built the mousetrap vehicle a bit too big and modified the mousetrap by cutting off a part of the mousetrap. We did not have a dowel. We only got tiered down to tier three, and they still let us run the vehicle. We launched it two times and the vehicle got very close to the target and ended up getting eleventh place. If we had not gotten tiered, then we would have been first or second.

My next event was the Ping-Pong Parachute. In this event teams had a one-liter bottle rocket and a ping-pong on a parachute. The rocket is launched at a pressure that is chosen by the team participating. Aziz and I put the pressure for the first test at fifty-five. The rocket went up, and the parachute payload system worked, except the parachute did not open fully. On the second launch, Aziz and I put the pressure at 60psi. The rocket flew upward almost hitting the ceiling. It came back down, and the parachute payload system worked, but the parachute did not fully open up again. We then went to the awards ceremony. After the awards ceremony we got onto the bus, and the MBA Science Olympiad team went back to Nashville.

Birmingham Civil Rights Trip

By John Howard

On Friday, January 17th, the seventh grade went on a trip to the Birmingham Civil Rights Museum. On the bus ride to the Birmingham Civil Rights Museum, the teachers distributed journals. With the journals we were to ask other people whom we were sitting next to where they came from. Additionally, on the bus ride, we watched a short film about the Civil Rights Movement. When we arrived at the museum,



there were a few statues in a park next to the bus. The statues were about civil rights and were part of the museum. Then, we went in, and the seventh grade was divided up into groups based on the three buses. My group was the last group to go into the museum because I was on bus three. We waited for a few minutes, and then we entered a theater. In the theater we watched a short film about the history of Birmingham, Alabama, and how African-Americans contributed to the construction of the city. When the film was done, the projection



Seventh-grade class on the steps of the Civil Rights Museum in Birmingham, Alabama

screen rose up, revealing the museum behind it. There were four galleries in total: the Human Rights Gallery, the Movement Gallery, the Confrontation Gallery, and the Barriers Gallery. When you go into the first gallery, you see that there are a bunch of exhibits that show things from train seats to what the difference is in whites' and African Americans'

houses. Additionally, there were parts of diners and schools that showed the difference between whites' and African Americans' classrooms. Then, when my bus group moved on to the next exhibits, the display showed things like how the justice system back then was unjust and unfair. We moved on to the next exhibit where the museum taught about a church

bombing and how white supremecist groups like the Ku Klux Klan started to form. There was even one of the members' suits on the wall. When my bus group moved further into the exhibit, we saw the Freedom Ride bus and how it got bombed. When my bus group moved further down the hallway, there was a recording playing Martin Luther King's famous "I Have A Dream" speech. I listened to it, but then we were running out of time and had to rush out into the lobby. We then went across the street and took a picture as a class. When we were done with the picture, the buses pulled back up and there was a wall of Chick-fil-A. We loaded onto the buses, with bus three's being last again, and we got Chick-fil-A and headed back to school. It was a fun trip on a very serious subject.



2020 JS Wilson Grant Directed Trips

By Aiden Becker

Thanks to the Wilson family, this year the MBA-directed trip for the seventh grade is a Landmarks in American History trip. Some key locations on this trip are Jamestown, Williamsburg, and Yorktown. One other key location is Washington, D.C. In Washington, D.C students will see the Smithsonian which will be showcasing the new National Museum of African-American



History and Culture, and they will also visit the Capitol Building. This trip will provide students the opportunity to visit the historical places that have shaped modern America.

Each location visited on this tour is of significant historical importance to American history. Jamestown was founded on May 14, 1607. Around 100 people of a venture called the Virginia Company settled on an island in the James River to



inhabit the new land. Students will be able to visit Williamsburg, which was the capital of Virginia. It was also a political, cultural, and education center. It was where the concepts of our republic were born. Students will travel to Yorktown, which was the final battle that took place during the American Revolution. General Cornwallis surrendered Yorktown on October 19, 1781. This battle is what gave the United States its independence from Great Britain.

The National Museum of African American History is another part of this trip. It is where people can learn about the diversity of the African-American experience. In my opinion, this trip is an amazing way to see the historical sights and to understand the historical significance of our nation.

This year the MBA-directed trip for rising ninth grade students is a tour of Italy. On this trip, students will tour Rome, Castel Gandolfo, Tivoli. They will also be able to visit the Bay of Naples area, which consists of Herculaneum, Sperlonga, Mt. Vesuvius, and Pompeii. The students embarking on this trip will be able to see the historical sights of Italy and how it has affected the modern world and the societies that exist today. This trip will allow visitors to better grasp the information and culture of a different country and give them the opportunity of a lifetime.

Rome is the capital of Italy and one of the most historical places in the world. Rome has left imprints

that are still changing the world to this day, and it will be one of the most important parts of this trip.

Castel Gandolfo is a castle and village located in central Italy, and it is also known as the summer residence for the Popes. It originated from a castle that belonged to the Gandolfi family during the 12th century and became a domain of the Holy See in 1608.

East of Rome lies Tivoli, which was once a rival of Rome but received Roman citizenship in 90 BCE. Tivoli is an extremely important landmark of architecture and played a significant part in classicizing taste. The bay of Naples is known for its geographical beauty and major landmarks. Landmarks consisting of Pompeii, Herculaneum, Sperlonga, and Mt. Vesuvius.

This trip is an amazing chance to learn about Roman history, Italian culture, and a better understanding of how the Romans have affected the modern world, and I am grateful for the Wilson Family for providing us these amazing opportunities to have new experiences and learn material in a new environment. Because of them we will have memories that we can cherish for a lifetime.





Congratulations to the 2019-2020 MathCounts Team on winning their 18th city championship!



GET READY TO PERFORM!
April is National Poetry Month

**It is Time for the Annual
Junior School Recitation Competition**

Entry level performance competitions begin in each English class in April, with winners from each class moving on to the main competition in Massey Commons on Tuesday, April 7 and Wednesday, April 8.

The seventh-grade finalists and eighth-grade finalists will face off for the grade level winners on Wednesday, April 15. in the Dead Poet's Room in Lowry.

Prizes are awarded to each grade level winner.
Contact your English teacher or Mrs. Roberts for more information.

Another Letter has been found!

The Ancient Spells

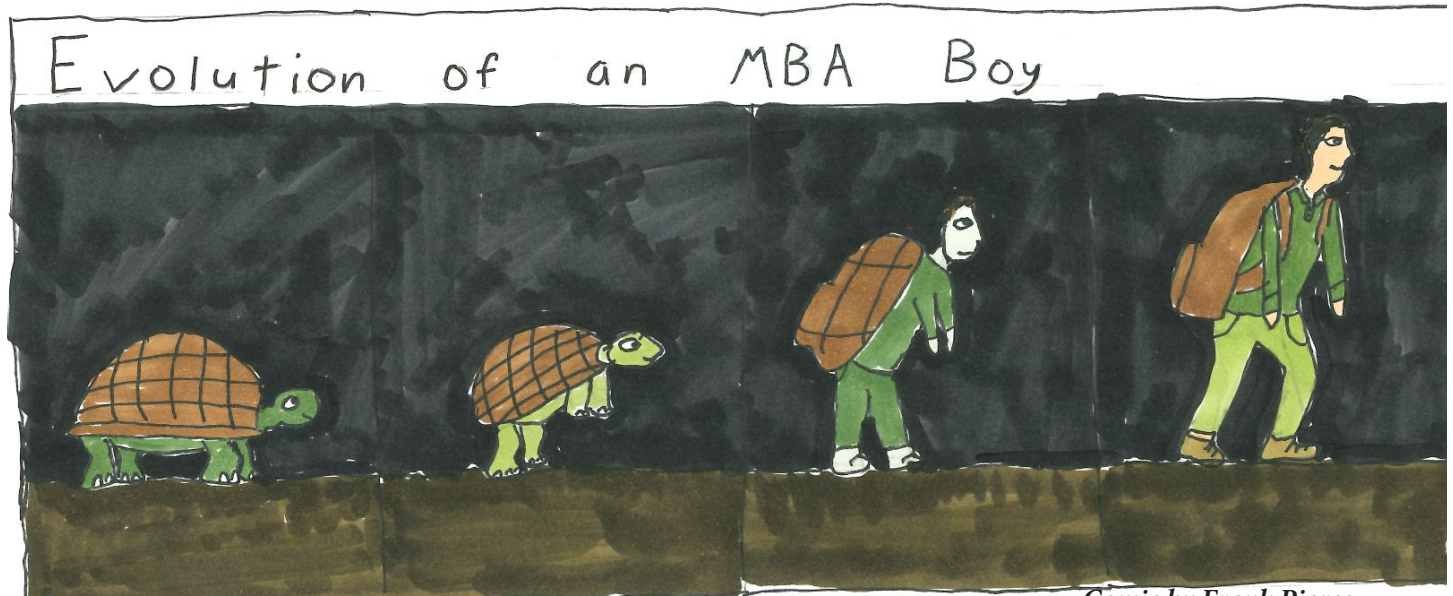
Author's note:

I keep finding these letters all around campus, and I have no idea where they're coming from, but I will be reporting them to you the best that I can. Although parts of this letter are unreadable, I will try to convey them to you as best I can.

To whomever this concerns I am still alive. I narrowly escaped the Ingram beast, but now I know too much. I never knew how many secrets lie in this school, but I keep finding more. I found ancient transcripts in a place I cannot disclose. It explains so many things, and now I truly understand how the beast was tamed. I was mistaken when I found that the teachers used school supplies to fight the large feline, but instead they used magic. That's right magic. The language we call Latin today is actually a mixture of ancient runes and words that create spells. This knowledge of magic has been on the campus of Montgomery Bell since the beginning of time. It has been passed down generation-to-generation and is used to protect the campus. The Latin teachers teach the students the ancient spells looking for someone who has the magic ability to be their successor. The beast was put to sleep by the ancient spells, and they use spells to keep all of these secrets hidden from the students. I am wary I might be the high council of wizards and witches' next target. Though just, they cannot have themselves revealed as to keep their identity's secret. My hiding space has been found, and I am worried I might be done for. If you never see any more of my notes look in the creek outside MBA for the entrance to the ancient cave system. It is guarded by magic, and I don't know if you can find it. I don't know if this will be my last account, but to whoever finds this message - Godspeed because you might be next!

Sincerely,

Anonymous

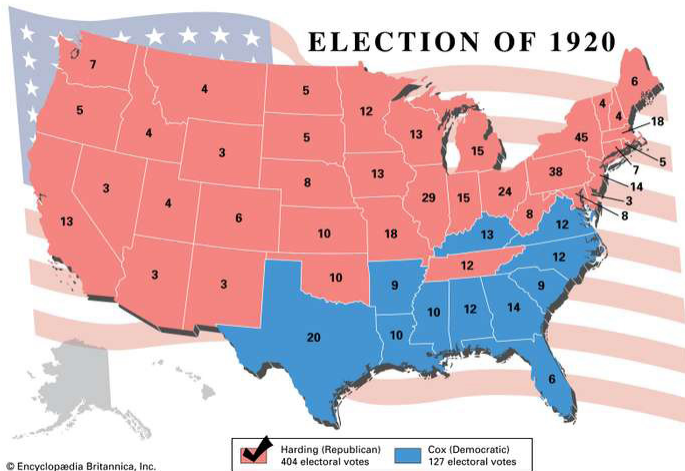


Comic by Frank Pierce

1920 v.s. 2020 Election

By Edwin Bass

There are many aspects of American life that have changed in the past one-hundred years, but one big aspect is the presidential election. The election of 1920 was



very different from how the election of 2020 will be in a couple of different ways. 1920 was the first year that women were allowed to vote. Before then, it was thought that men and women had different roles to play in American life. The job of women was to take care of the children and manage the house. The job of men was to work and follow politics. On August 8, 1920, however, only four months before the 1920 presidential election, the 19th Amendment was ratified, allowing women to vote. In the 2020 election, some of the candidates actually are women.

In 1920 the voting age was twenty-one, and now it is eighteen. In 1920 only 49.2% of the people voted.

The Presidential Election of 1920



Warren Harding



James Cox

vs.

Now over 70% of the people vote. In 1920 there were not many ways to find out which president to vote for because the only ways to be informed were through the newspapers and the radio. Now it is possible to get unlimited information (facts and fake news) on any candidate because of our more numerous resources that now include Twitter, television, news networks, Google, and more. 1920 was also the first election after WWI; the roaring twenties were just beginning. In

2020, our country is doing very well financially, and the New York Stock Exchange just recently hit its all time high. While the 1920 election was taking place, there were only 48 states. The United States did not yet have Alaska and Hawaii. It was not until 1959 that Alaska and Hawaii both joined the Union.

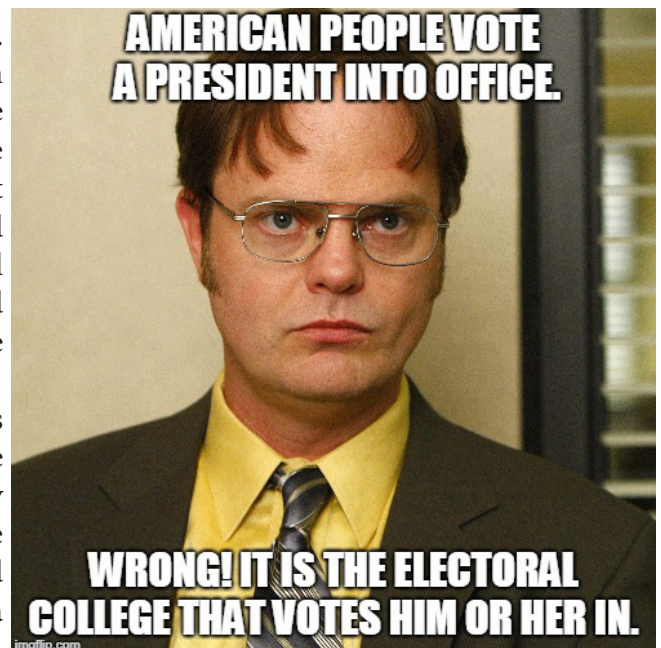
The issues prevalent in these elections were also very different. In 1920, the election was considered by many to be a

referendum on Woodrow Wilson-style politics and internationalism. In 2020, the issues for the election are forecast to concern climate change, immigration, sustainable development, and more.

Despite these numerous differences after a century of change in our political system, the 1920 election a century ago is also similar with present-day presidential elections. Today, there are still the two main sides that there were in 1920: the Democrats and the Republicans. The Electoral College is still in use, and the amount of electoral votes still depends on the population. African-Americans could vote in both elections. However, in the Southern states in the 1920 election, there were some places where only white people could vote due to segregation.

It has been nearly a century since the 1920 presidential election, and much has changed in the United States of America. However, much has also remained the same. As we approach the presidential election of 2020, it is important to reflect on our nation's past as we look forward to the future.

**AMERICAN PEOPLE VOTE
A PRESIDENT INTO OFFICE.**



The Mandalorian

By John Howard

The Mandalorian is a Disney+ TV show about a *Star Wars* Mandalorian. *The Mandalorian* consists of eight episodes where a Mandalorian goes around helping people and villages while also protecting a creature named Baby Yoda (Well, that is the common name). The creature is additionally called "The Child" in the show. The Mandalorian himself is a bounty hunter after the fall of the Empire. He scavenges around multiple planets to find credits. When jobs are running scarce, he takes on a nearly impossible job. The Mandalorian is able to get the job from a guy named Greef Karga. For the Mandalorian to complete the job, he has to meet the buyer who is only ever known as "the Client." The job that the Mandalorian takes is to go and get a small creature in a package and bring it to the Client. The Mandalorian is able to go retrieve this package and bring it back to the client, but over time with the small creature, the Mandalorian grows attached to it. The Mandalorian shifts to the thought that protecting Baby Yoda is more important than the bounty that is on Baby Yoda's head.

Mandalorians are a clan of



people in the fictional franchise *Star Wars*. The first Mandalorian shown is known as the bounty hunter Boba Fett. The Mandalorian's home planet is a planet known as Mandalore. The whole series of *The Mandalorian* is based on the one fact that even though the main character is a Mandalorian, he still has a heart. It goes back to the Mandalorian's hardships when he was a child and how his parents died when he was a very young age. The story reveals that he does not need to be a ruthless killer, and he can choose his own path.

When *The Mandalorian* was first released, a lot of conspiracy theories started developing around it. One of those theories is that Baby

Yoda, "The Child," is really Yoda. Though that sounds very plausible, it cannot actually be true because of the fact that Yoda was in the Republic Trilogy in *Star Wars*, and in the first episode of *The Mandalorian*, there are imperial troopers in the room with the Client. The imperial troopers are not working for the Empire at the time of the Republic, so there is a long gap between when Yoda goes into exile and Baby Yoda first makes his appearance. Another theory is the theory that Baby Yoda is a clone of the real Yoda. Now, that theory is very probable because Yoda's species is a very rare type of species. That would also explain why the Client wants Yoda alive because it would be very hard to clone Baby Yoda if it were not alive. I think that the second theory is very likely and that Baby Yoda is a clone of the old Yoda.



writers
wanted

**TOH Meetings are
every Tuesday in
M21!**

Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker— Why So Much Hate?

By Nathan Williams

Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker, directed by J.J. Abrams, has been a somewhat decisive conclusion to the monstrous movie trilogy which follows George Lucas's original fan favorites. The movie also comes after *Star Wars: The Last Jedi*, which was, for the most part, universally disliked by *Star Wars* fans despite its 91% *Rotten Tomatoes* rating. Ultimately, the second movie in the trilogy failed to fulfill its purpose, and consequently, failed to please viewers. Instead, the movie followed a rambling storyline that never actually set up anything for the third installment, with the exception of forming Kylo Ren and Rey's relationship. As a result, the third movie "relied on nostalgia" and plot "stretches" to make a safe yet "non original" ending. However, though *The Rise of Skywalker* certainly received large amounts of unwarranted criticism, I personally liked it.

The movie begins quickly as we learn that Kylo Ren (the primary antagonist and Sith in the trilogy)

has discovered a new planet by the name of Exegol. This planet happens to hold a massive fleet of mini-Death Star ships which have been created off-screen over the past few movies. More importantly, however, Kylo Ren finds (former) Emperor Palpatine who somehow survived the supposed "fatal" fall by the hands of Darth

Vader in *Return of the Jedi*. Palpatine proceeds to tell Kylo Ren to kill the movie's protagonist Rey, whom Kylo sees as his obstacle to achieving greatness. From this point onward, the movie surrounds Rey, Finn, and Po's (Finn and Po are



secondary protagonists) learning about and seeking the hidden planet of Exegol so they can take down Palpatine. Rey and her companions travel from planet-to-planet in search of a "wayfinder" which will grant them a path to Exegol. On multiple occasions, they come into contact with Kylo Ren and the First Order who desperately try to capture them. Finally, Rey finds a wayfinder on the moon Endor in which she attempts to escape until Kylo Ren confronts her (once again). They duel, and Rey emerges victorious while taking Kylo's ship in the process. The movie wraps up on Exegol with both Rey and Kylo Ren battling against Palpatine, who we learn is Rey's grandfather. The whole Resistance with Rey and Kylo end up defeating the First Order (technically First Order at this point, but that is complicated) and Palpatine, but at the cost of Kylo's life. Finally, Rey

returns to Luke and Anakin's home planet Tatooine where she proclaims herself a Skywalker, as Leia Skywalker essentially raised her.

So, the brief story recap brings me to this question: Why did so many people dislike this movie? A major complaint is that the story has multiple holes and relies strongly on nostalgia. Throughout the story, stuff just happens randomly. Rey conveniently finds certain objects that they desperately need to find the wayfinder, even if the chances of their finding them are slim-to-none. Palpatine came back because they didn't have a villain set up in *The Last Jedi*, and they brought back multiple fan favorite characters and soundtracks. In my opinion, these directing and storyline choices were necessary and not a reason to dislike the movie. In order to make a great movie with memorable characters, J.J. Abrams had to create a lot of off-screen action to make the movie work. In the same way, the movie couldn't perform as the previous one did, so Abrams used a large amount of nostalgia (which was quite safe). As for the unlikeliness of some parts of the film, Abrams had to make some stretches to fit into the Palpatine narrative, which was what the whole movie was about.

Overall, the majority of complaints have to do with the lack of planning for the trilogy, which boils down to directing switches. J.J. Abrams did the best with what he had. On the bright side, the movie's visually stunning. The CGI is incredible, and the acting isn't bad, either. The movie truly is a great watch if you are not trying to find what is wrong with it. If I were to rate it, I would give it an 8/10, so I recommend it. The *Star Wars* franchise seems to be moving in the right direction with *The Mandalorian* (TV-series) and *Fallen Order* (video game), so I am excited to see where it will go.

Jumanji: The Next Level Movie Review

By Nathan Sinclair

Jumanji: The Next Level, directed by Jake Kasdan, was released December 13, 2019. This movie is a sequel to *Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle*. People say it is the second movie, but really it is the third movie because the original *Jumanji* was produced in 1995. I personally enjoyed the movie, and what I expected to happen, does happen.

There are many small Easter eggs that you may have not caught. One of the major Easter eggs that caught my attention was the restaurant Nora's. If you remember, in the very first *Jumanji* movie in 1995, Nora, the aunt of Judy and Peter, is taking care of them because their parents were killed in a skiing accident. I liked this Easter egg because it is something that linked the original movie to the brand new movie. Another Easter egg that you may have not caught onto is the scene when Ming Fleetfoot, or "Grandpa Eddie," drops into the cylinder-shaped jewel chamber just like in the movie *Mission Impossible*. One final Easter egg that some people might have missed is the rope bridge scene with the Mandrills. Braveston takes his knife and cuts the rope on one side of the bridge in order to slow the mandrills down just like in the



movie *Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom*. These are just a few of the Easter eggs that appear throughout the movie.

Another excellent part of the movie is the acting. Kevin Hart, who plays Franklin "Mouse" Finbar, impersonates Milo, played by Danny Glover, and does an outstanding job mimicking the slow-talking Milo Walker. Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson plays Dr. Bravestone who impersonates Uncle Eddie, played by Danny DeVito. Johnson did well at portraying Danny DeVito's characteristics. However, a few

times in the movie, Johnson forgets to do the New Jersey accent that DeVito is known for. For example, when Bravestone and Finbar are in the dune buggy being chased by the ostriches, Bravestone yells at Findar, and he uses his normal voice on accident. Awkwafina is new to the *Jumanji* cast, and she plays Ming Fleetfoot. She does a great job getting the raspiness of Danny DeVito's voice and the awkwardness of Spencer Gilpin, played by Alex Wolff. The rest of the cast does a good job taking on new challenges with the different people being impersonated.

There were two post-credit scenes at the end of the movie. One was when Uncle Eddie and Spencer play video games together. This scene shows the growth of the two relatives and how the world of *Jumanji* changes people. The other post-credit scene is when the gang of friends walk out of Nora's restaurant and a herd of ostriches run by. This post-credit scene foreshadows the next movie. Like the original *Jumanji*, people suspect the game to enter reality instead of their friends being sucked into the game.

I would recommend going to see the movie in theaters because it is one to remember.



Spring Break
Dates:
March
13 - 22
& Field Day
March 23

1917 Movie Review

By William Perri

1917 is a movie that was directed, produced, and partially written by Sam Mendes in a creative and unique way. It follows the story of two young soldiers named William Schofield and Tom Blake, portrayed by George MacKay and Dean-Charles Chapman, on their dangerous adventure across the German front lines in order to get a message to a battalion in the British Expeditionary Force to call off an attack. The two soldiers face many challenges in getting there,



and their journey proves to be a hard-fought battle that must be overcome by strength and bravery. Sam Mendes does a great job with the film and makes the viewer feel as if he were a part of the film and not just watching it. I constantly found myself feeling the pain that the two friends had to experience in order to try and save about a thousand men from certain death in a trap set by the Germans.

Mendes portrays the harsh

cruelties of war through several excellent ideas. One of these brilliant film-making ideas was to only use one shot the entire film so that the audience feels like they go on the entire journey with William and Tom. Thus, the audience feels more engaged and a part of the story. Every single performance in this movie was excellent, and the two relatively new leading actors had a performance for

the ages.

1917 is a great movie to watch, but do be advised because it is rated R for violence, disturbing images, and language. If you can, you should definitely go to see it. I am going to give *1917* a 10/10 because of how beautiful the cinematography is, how good the acting and soundtrack are, and for how enjoyable of a story it is. Altogether, this movie is a masterpiece and is my favorite movie of 2019.



CREATIVE WRITING CONTESTS: WIN MONEY!

Who: 7th and 8th graders

What: Short stories and poetry composed during the current school year.

Short story length: 3-8 pages, double-spaced

Jesse Hill Ford Short Story Contest

Prize: The best short story wins \$150!

Due: Friday, April 17th

Turn in a printed copy and also e-mail a copy to Mrs. Roberts.

The Rascoe Bond Davis Creative Writing Contest

Categories: Poetry and Fiction

1st place \$50

2nd place \$35

3rd place \$10

Turn in a printed copy and also e-mail a copy to Mrs. Roberts.

Junior School Entries ***Due by Friday, April 17th.***

Star Wars Jedi: Fallen Order

By Aiden Becker



In the past four years, *Star Wars* video games have experienced a rough start in the market during the first few months after their release. In 2015, *Star Wars Battlefront* had high expectations that it failed to meet at launch. Within a year, content was added to *Battlefront*, and it made up for what it lacked at launch. Two years after *Battlefront*'s initial release, *Battlefront II* was launched. *Battlefront II* received frequent negative reviews. In the past few months, it has been improved and more players have come to enjoy it. *Star Wars Jedi: Fallen Order*, on the other hand, is having a great launch, and it has met the hopes that fans have been anticipating. In my personal opinion, there is not much this game has been lacking, and I am happy that many players and fans around the world are enjoying it.

In this story mode game,

you play as Cal Kestis. Cal was a Jedi Padawan to Jaro Tapal who was killed during Order 66. Emperor Palpatine put Order 66 into effect in *Revenge of the Sith*. This order killed most all of the Jedi; very few survived. After the purge, Cal started working as a scrapper. He spent many years on Bracca scrapping ships from the Clone Wars. In the beginning of the game, you play as Cal five years after the Purge. In this game your goal is to obtain a list of all of the force-sensitive children in the galaxy in order to rebuild the Jedi Order.

The fighting mechanic in this game is a hand-to-hand parrying combat. Parrying is a guard mechanic where the attack's effects are neglected with a higher frame advantage to execute an offensive or defensive action. Parries became popular in the release of the *Street Fighter III* games. Similar to other story mode games, *Fallen Order*

has a skill tree. A skill tree is one of the many ways of improving your character in a game. It is modeled with a base, and the different abilities branch out. The three bases in *Fallen Order* are Lightsaber, Force, and Survival skills. You obtain these abilities by gaining skill points throughout the game. Customization is another part of this game. You can customize the ship Cal uses, his lightsaber, and clothes. I find it fun to change his appearance to blend into the environment of the planet he is on. Cosmetics are found in chests throughout all of the planets you visit. I have only listed a few of the abundant options and mechanics this game has to offer.

Star Wars Jedi: Fallen Order seems to be a story and experience fans from around the world have been looking for. The story is well written, and it fits in well with the rest of the *Star Wars* Universe. After a strong start, I look forward to possible future updates and games coming out in the near future.

Overall, this is a great game, and I would definitely recommend this game to *Star Wars* fans.



Is Virtual Reality Worth the Price?



By Jack Rodgers

Some people view virtual reality as a revolutionary technology that could change the way video games are played, and others see it as an overpriced gimmick that will die out soon. While VR is becoming easier to buy and set up, it isn't becoming any more affordable. Some people are asking, Is it worth it?

On a software level, 90% of the VR games currently available are glorified tech demos. There are few VR games that offer a complete experience, as most revolve around a single unique gimmick or mechanic. Take, for example, *Superhot*, a fast-paced shooter where you can slow time by standing still. The game has little content and revolves entirely around the mechanic of slowing time. Does this mean the game is not fun? No. In fact, when I first bought *Superhot*, I didn't stop playing for 45 minutes. The current VR market, however, encourages the poor practice of developing games around a single concept and then selling them as full-priced games. The best games you'll find are the ones that either have online multiplayer for a repeatable experience or have support for community modding. The best VR games I have played so far are *Pavlov* and *Blade and Sorcery*.

Pavlov is a first-person shooter game with online multiplayer. While the gameplay is bare bones, it combines the pace of a tactical shooter like CS:GO with the controls of Virtual Reality to create an immersive and intense experience. *Pavlov* is one of the best VR shooters as the gunplay feels smooth, and the controls feel realistic.

Blade and Sorcery is a fantasy sword fighting game with realistic controls and an incredible community. When you first download the game, the simple wave-fighting formula and the satisfying controls afford a few good hours of fun, but it's the modding community that truly completes the game. Mods are made as easy to install, and you can download anything from new weapons to different fighting stages to unique spells. Somebody even went out and created a *Star Wars* mod that adds lightsabers and blasters. What began as a simple game made to test physics in the VR community was made into a full-fledged fighting game experience with every kind of mod one could imagine.

While the software is quite simple, picking a headset can be a daunting task. The first thing a person has to understand when buying a VR headset is that not

all VR headsets are created equal. While a used Oculus headset might be cheaper than the latest model, VR is still very experimental, and the earlier versions will probably come with a slew of annoying bugs and difficulties. Currently, the leading headsets on the market are the Oculus Quest and the HTC Vive Cosmos. While the Vive requires a full PC setup with high performance, the Quest is one of the best, most affordable options for people without access to a high-powered computer. The Quest acts as a standalone console, meaning that it has a system built into it so you can play VR anywhere. For people who already have a computer, the HTC Vive or the Oculus Rift-S provide high performance options for VR. While Quest is not the highest performance option out there, it provides a relatively affordable entry into the world of VR.

No matter what headset you buy, it's going to come with a hefty price tag. I personally recommend that you explore your options and find out what setup best fits you before you make a purchase.



Streaming Services: Which Service Is Right For You?

By Ryan Chapman

In 2020, people are always on their phones, iPads, and televisions. However, as a society, we have moved into an age of streaming services. These services give viewers movies and television shows that they can find on their favorite networks. Also, the streaming services include originals that can be found nowhere else. *Disney+*, *Netflix*, *Hulu*, and *Apple TV+* are just a few of the examples of the streaming services that many people are watching right now. At the same time, these streaming services are all competing with one another to have the most subscribers, and with so many choices the average viewer is likely to ask: “Which one do I choose?”

First, there is *Disney+*. The platform is relatively new to the streaming market. It is owned by Disney and was released in November of 2019. The platform was very popular in its beginning. In one week it had been downloaded 15.5 million times. It has a low cost of \$6.99 (not including the addition of *ESPN+* or *Hulu*) and offers viewers some of the most popular franchises in Hollywood. These include *Star Wars*, *Marvel*, and *The Simpsons*. *Disney+* also offers well-written originals, the most notable of which would be the *Star Wars* series entitled, *The Mandalorian*. *Disney+* is always changing too, and the streaming service is always adding new content for viewers to enjoy.

Second is *Netflix*, the king of streaming services. *Netflix* has been in the business of streaming for awhile. Like *Disney+* the platform is very popular with over 150 million viewers. While being on more of the expensive side of the spectrum with viewers paying \$8.99, *Netflix* is definitely worth the purchase with its original content such as *Stranger Things*, *The Crown*, and many others. It offers other documentaries and comedies too, so there is definitely something for everyone.

Third is *Hulu*. The streaming service is not expensive. Viewers only pay \$5.99 to watch the shows it offers with ads. The shows on *Hulu* are very popular, most notably, the Emmy winning *The Handmaid's Tale*. Other shows include *Family Guy*, *Futurama*, *Rick and Morty*, and countless other shows. *Hulu* also offers comedies, dramas, and satire which gives viewers a variety of shows to watch and enjoy.

Finally, the latest addition to the streaming market, *Apple TV+*. It was created by Apple and is priced at \$4.99. The service offers shows such as *The Morning Show*, which stars Jennifer Aniston, Reese Witherspoon, and Steve Carell. The service is also working on creating documentaries and a book club which would offer more variety in the streaming service.

There are many great streaming services out in the world each of which is unique. Each service has amazing content that everyone can watch and enjoy, so in the end it all comes down to personal preference and what suits a person best.



ENTERTAINMENT

The Legacy of Kobe Bryant

By Frank Johns

Kobe Bryant was a five-time NBA champion, a two-time gold medalist, 18-time NBA All-Star, the winner of the 2008 NBA MVP, a 12-time member of the All-Defense Team, and a 15-time member of the all-NBA team. Aside from his many basketball achievements, he was also the father of four daughters: Gianna, Natalia, Bianka, and Capri Bryant, and the founder of Mamba Academy, a sports academy. Kobe has innumerable accomplishments in his life on and off the court. He was a mentor and friend to a myriad of different players such as LeBron James, Trae Young, Kyrie Irving, and Kawhi Leonard. Sadly, his life was cut short, along with his daughter



**KOBE
BRYANT**
1978-2020

Gianna's and seven other helpless civilians' in a devastating helicopter crash.

Kobe was born on August 23, 1978. His dad, Joe "Jelly Bean" Bryant was an NBA player for eight years, and then he went on to play in Italy. In fact, Kobe spent most of his childhood in Italy, learning how to speak fluent Italian. When Kobe returned to the United States, he attended Lower Merion High School and became such a star there. He went straight to the NBA from high school. He was drafted by the Hornets at age 17 during the 1996-1997 NBA Draft, but Jerry West, the manager of the Lakers at the time, saw his potential and immediately traded for him. This trade changed his whole career in such a great way.

On the Lakers, he quickly was one of the best players in the league. He was the youngest All-Star ever attending in his second year of the NBA. Then, in 2000, he won his first Championship. By 2002, he had three rings. Part of the reason for these back-to-back-to-back titles was due to Shaquille O'Neal and their work as a dynamic duo. In 2004, Shaq was traded to the Miami Heat, ending their duo. During the 2006 season, Kobe dropped 81 points, setting his career high and the second most points in a game in NBA history. In 2008, Kobe won the MVP. He won two more

Championships in 2009 and 2010. He won the finals MVP in both years. In 2013, Kobe ruptured his Achilles'. After that, he was never as good a player. He retired in the 2015-2016 season. During

his last game, he scored 60 points against the Utah Jazz. As you can see, Kobe had a historic legacy playing basketball.

Off the court, Kobe also had an accomplished life. In 1999, Kobe met Vanessa Laine. Fast forward three years and they get married. Now, they have four children. Kobe always said how he loved being a girl dad, and he was always a dad who pushed and loved his kids with all his heart. In 2003, Kobe was accused of raping a young Colorado woman. All charges were dropped, and everything was settled in a lawsuit in 2005. Kobe created Mamba Academy (Mamba for his nickname "The Black Mamba.") The mission of Mamba Sports Academy is to be a "multi-platform environment that activates, educates, and provides an opportunity for humans to unlock their full potential." Mamba helps people of all gender, sex, religion, and ethnicity train and play sports. Kobe also helped mentor and teach young stars to become better players. Through hard work and discipline, Kobe has accomplished all of these achievements.

Kobe Bryant was a hard-working athlete and father. He was fluent in multiple languages and was loved by billions of people. Although he has passed away, his legacy will live on for many, many generations.



Way to Go, Joe!

The Incredible Season of Joe Burrow

By Edward Curley

Looking back, we can see now that Joe Burrow was built to be a champion, but it was not an easy road. Burrow arrived at LSU in the summer of 2018. He had transferred from Ohio State just months earlier, so he was new to LSU when football practice started in August. He did not know many of his wide receivers or even many of his other LSU teammates. And the results reflected this fact. After Burrow's first season as a Tiger, LSU finished 10-3 with losses to Florida, Alabama, and Texas A&M. Although many teams would celebrate a ten win season, the Tigers were hungry for more.

At the end of the 2018 season, there was a small sign of hope for next season with a hard fought Fiesta Bowl win against the undefeated University of Central Florida. But even with bowl victory, Burrow and LSU knew that

something would have to change for the Tigers to achieve their goals the following year. Burrow knew he would have to work to improve chemistry with his receivers, and for their part, he knew his receivers would have to eliminate dropped passes. LSU's head coach Ed Orgeron and LSU's passing game coordinator Joe Brady started to address these problems in the summer when the LSU receivers caught a total of ten thousand passes from Burrow. As the summer of 2019 progressed, the season was drawing near, and the Tigers were anxious to start the season off with a clean slate. LSU opened the season with a blowout win over Georgia Southern with Burrow's providing a hint of things to come by throwing five touchdown passes. In the next game, Burrow proved he could play well on the big stage with a close win over No. 9 ranked Texas Longhorns, passing for four touchdowns.

As the Tigers began SEC play, they had no problem with Vanderbilt, No. 7 ranked Florida, and Mississippi State. The Tigers then faced their arch-rival: the Alabama Crimson Tide. All eyes were watching to see if LSU and Burrow were for real. And, after a

great first half, Burrow and the Tigers were able to prevail over the Tide. LSU did not struggle with any other teams along the way, rolling into the SEC Championship against the Georgia Bulldogs. The LSU defense was great against a hard-to-stop Bulldog offense, leading LSU to a win. For his part, Burrow continued his great play at quarterback.

Following his exceptional season, it seemed that everyone expected Burrow to win the Heisman Trophy. And, on December 14, Burrow did just that. Burrow's heartfelt acceptance speech received as much attention as his receipt of the award. Burrow thanked his family, his teammates, and his coaches for helping him along his path and being supportive of him. He spoke emotionally about his hometown of Athens, Ohio, which is a very impoverished area, and how he wanted to support the kids living there so they would know that they could accomplish great things like he did.

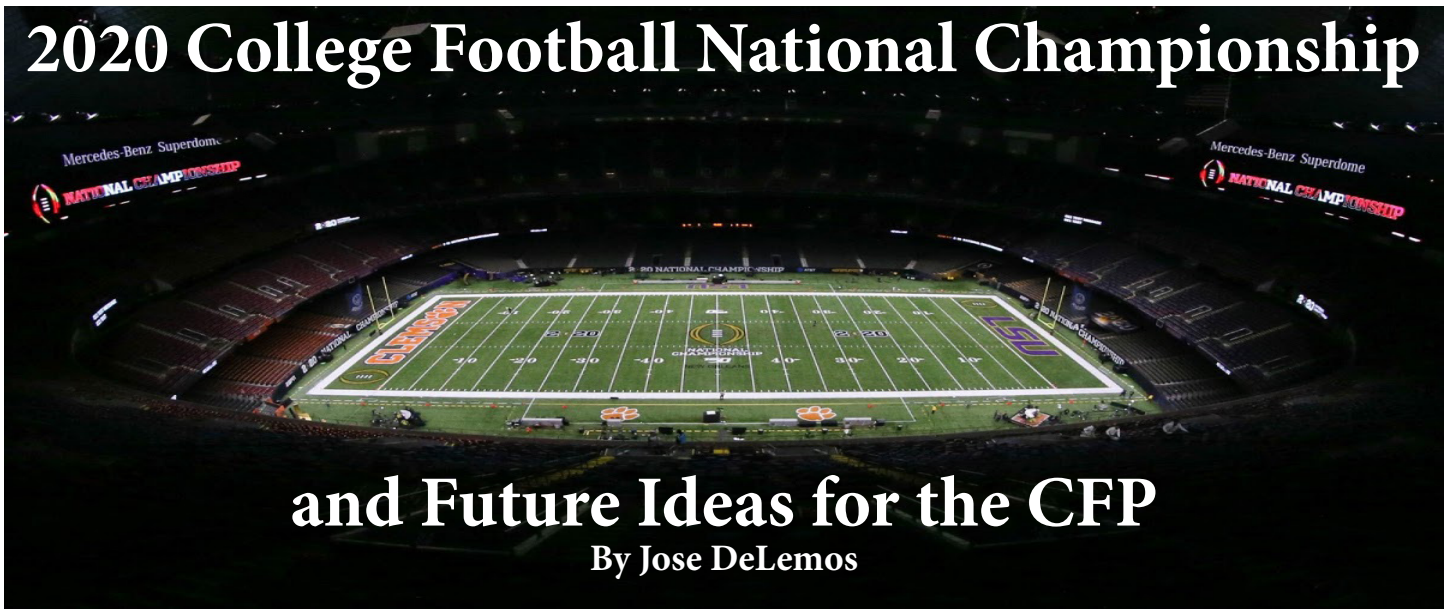
Burrow and LSU then had a date with Oklahoma in the college football playoff. LSU steamrolled the University of Oklahoma Sooners in the opening playoff game. This would set up a showdown with the Clemson Tigers in the National Championship in New Orleans.

After finding themselves down early in the game, the LSU Tigers stormed back to win the National Championship for the first time since 2007.

Joe Burrow, after a great season, is projected to go first overall in the NFL draft to the Cincinnati Bengals. At the beginning of the year, Burrow was not even in the 1st round picture, which just shows what a remarkable season Burrow really had.

After an incredible season, all eyes will be on Joe Burrow next year to see what he can accomplish in the NFL.

2020 College Football National Championship



and Future Ideas for the CFP

By Jose DeLemos

The 2020 college football season was exciting and unexpected, to say the least, with many improvements in many teams, and some teams underperforming and falling off. The season ultimately came to an end when the Louisiana State University Tigers played the Clemson Tigers in the National Championship. Joe Burrow, the Heisman candidate, was ready to play a future first-round pick Trevor Lawrence in an epic QB battle. The match was close in the first quarter as the game started as a defensive one. Eventually, LSU made adjustments on offense and was ready to blow up Clemson's defense. LSU and Joe Burrow started to run away with the game, and they did not look back. 42-25 was the final score, and LSU won the National Championship.

This game solidified Joe Burrow's mark as the number one college prospect in the nation. He is one of the most well-known and best prospects since Andrew Luck's coming out of college. Joe Burrow has proven himself as a winner and team player. He also is a true competitor and will do everything in his power to put his team on top at the end of the game.

One thing I would like to discuss is the college football playoffs. Yes, the games are interesting to watch, and lots of people across the United States sit down to watch them, but sometimes the games are disappointing. One that comes to mind was the LSU-Oklahoma game this year. The purpose of the CFP was to put teams that were capable of beating other teams for the National Championship. There have been some requests for an eight-team playoff. I definitely would like for that to happen. Not only would it give a chance for teams that are not in the Power 5 conferences, but it could also give us some legendary matchups that people would like to watch. A plus side for the NCAA's making this possible is that they could make a boatload of money by making multiple games for people to watch. Honestly, I think that this change will be made sometime in the next five years. Adding money and the extra fun to the CFP will be too much for the NCAA to pass on, and I think that this change has a plus side for everyone involved.



The Firing of Peter Laviolette

By Charlie Warner

The Nashville Predators have seen better days than those in the 2019-2020 season. Most fans knew that something big was going to happen, but no one knew what it could be. It could have been that Philip Forsberg got traded. But instead, on January 6, 2020 Peter Laviolette was fired. Most fans were shocked and sad. The history of Laviolette is pretty good, so most people were questioning if the Predators can't be good again.

The history of Laviolette is very interesting. He started off with the Carolina Hurricanes in 2003 and was fired in 2008. He won a Stanley Cup in 2006 and then was later fired. Then, Laviolette went to the Philadelphia Flyers from 2009-2013. He did not do as well but still got them to the playoffs. After that, he moved on to the Nashville Predators in 2014. Laviolette changed our team in so many ways. He got the Predators to the Stanley Cup Finals and won the Presidents Trophy. Peter Laviolette has a reputation for being really good one or two seasons and then things go downhill.

The Nashville Predators history of coaches has not been very long or good. The Predators were created in 1998 and our first coach was Barry Trotz who went to the Washington Capitals after the Predators and won the Stanley Cup for them. Trotz was never really a good coach for the Predators but went on to be elsewhere. His record with the Predators is 557-479-160. Now he

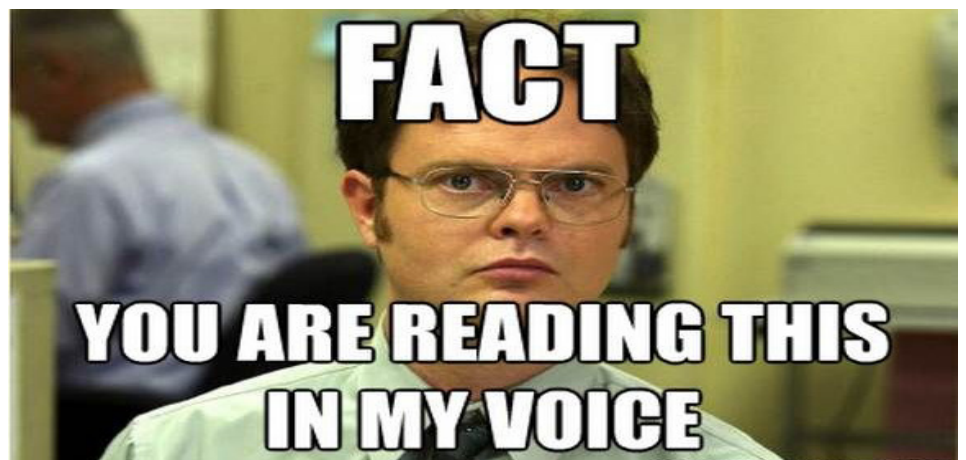


is with the New York Islanders. After Trotz was fired, the Predators picked up Peter Laviolette, and he traded and coached well until this season. His record with the Preds is 248-143-60. Now that Peter Laviolette is gone, John Hynes has taken over. Although the Predators have not had a lot of coaches in their history, these coaches have changed lots of other teams.

Peter Laviolette won many trophies for the Predators. For example, he won the Presidents' Trophy and the Western Conference Champions. He took the Preds to the Stanley Cup, and they got to participate in the Winter Classic. The Presidents Trophy is when a team finishes in the first standing in the NHL. The Western Conference Champions is when a team wins as one of the last four teams still in the

playoffs and gets to the Stanley Cup Finals. The Winter Classic is the only outside game in the whole season. Thus, Peter Laviolette was very successful for the Predators.

Laviolette was probably the best Predators' coach to date, but he has had his flaws. The reason he was fired was not because of his decisions, but because of the players. Laviolette didn't change the players. Laviolette was struggling with losing lots of games in a row, and the Predators were slow and sloppy. Our power plays did nothing and were falling apart. David Poile, the General Manager for the Preds, knew he had to do something. His decision was to fire Coach Laviolette. Even though Peter Laviolette was fired and wasn't coaching well, he still changed the Predators into a really good team.

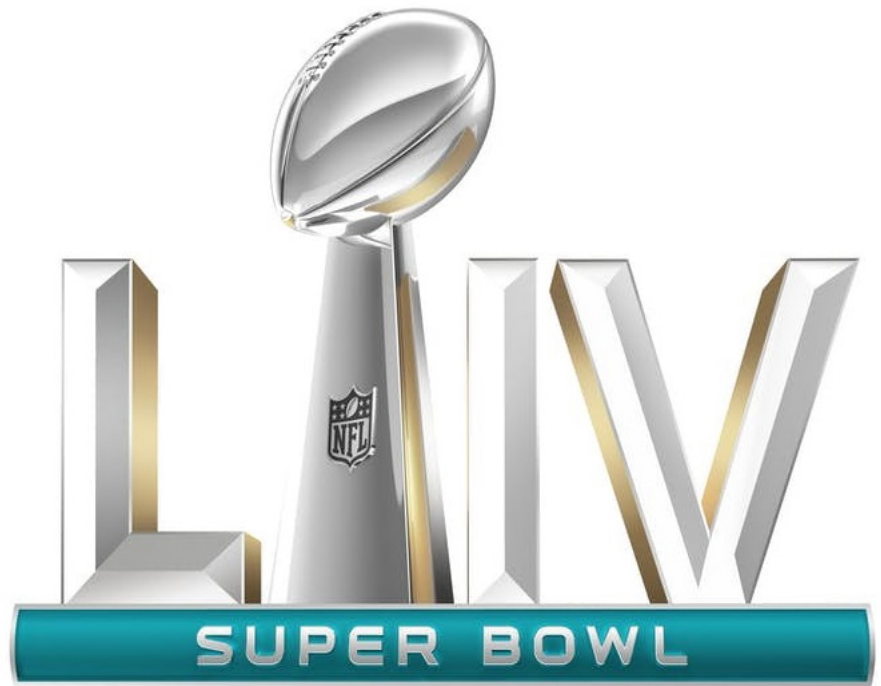


Super Bowl LIV

By Jack Farringer

In the end, it was the defense that won the championship. This year's Super Bowl was the San Francisco Forty Niners against the Kansas City Chiefs. This game was the Chiefs' first Super Bowl in fifty years. The Super Bowl is the biggest football game of the year, but it is also known for many other things. These things include the commercials and the halftime show. The commercials during the Super Bowl are the most expensive and regarded as the best of the whole year. The halftime show provides extra excitement for most people watching the game.

The best part of the Super Bowl, though, is always the game.



way with an interception and two scores. Many people thought that the Chiefs could not come back after that. The Chiefs' offense was their main weapon in previous games by outscoring the other team. The Chiefs' offense was not scoring as many points during the Super

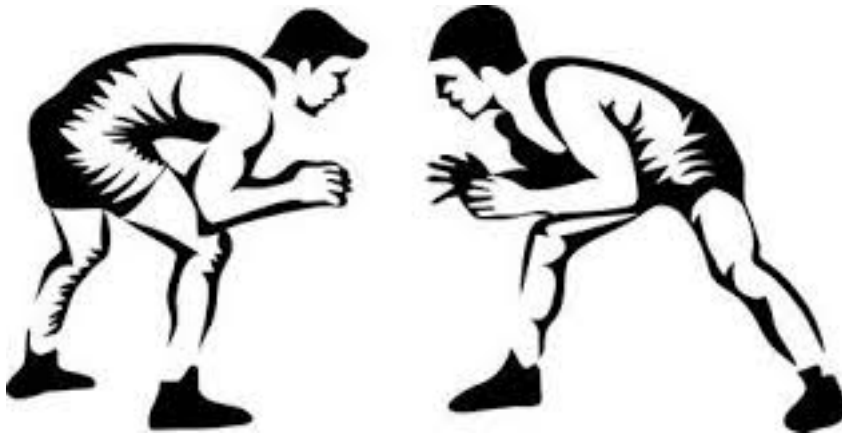
regarded defense of an offensive-minded team made it possible for the Kansas City Chiefs to win the championship. With only seven minutes left and the Chiefs down by ten, the win probability was low, but the offense scored a touchdown and put all of their weight on the defense to give the Chiefs' offense the ball back. The defense managed to stop the Forty Niners and give the ball back to their offense with about four minutes left to score a touchdown and win the game. Patrick Mahomes threw a touchdown pass to Damien Williams to take a twenty-four-to-twenty lead with about three minutes left. The Chiefs defense stopped the Forty Niners from scoring to secure their Super Bowl victory.



The first points of the game were scored by the Forty Niners in the form of a field goal, but the Chiefs quickly countered with a touchdown. The Chiefs and Forty Niners both scored one more time to make the game tied at ten at halftime. After halftime, everything seemed to be going the Forty Niners

Bowl, and it seemed unlikely they would win at that point. The Chiefs' defense was the turning point in the game because they stopped the Forty Niners from scoring multiple times to give their offense a chance to score. The saying that "defense wins championships" definitely applied to this game because the not-well-

The Super Bowl was an exciting game that had many lead changes. The Chiefs celebrated after being deemed the best team in the league. The Chiefs had an exciting ending for their first Super Bowl in fifty years. Both teams put in a lot of hard effort to make it to this point. It was made clear in how competitive the whole game was. Overall, it was a great Super Bowl.



Junior School Wrestling

By Jose DeLemos

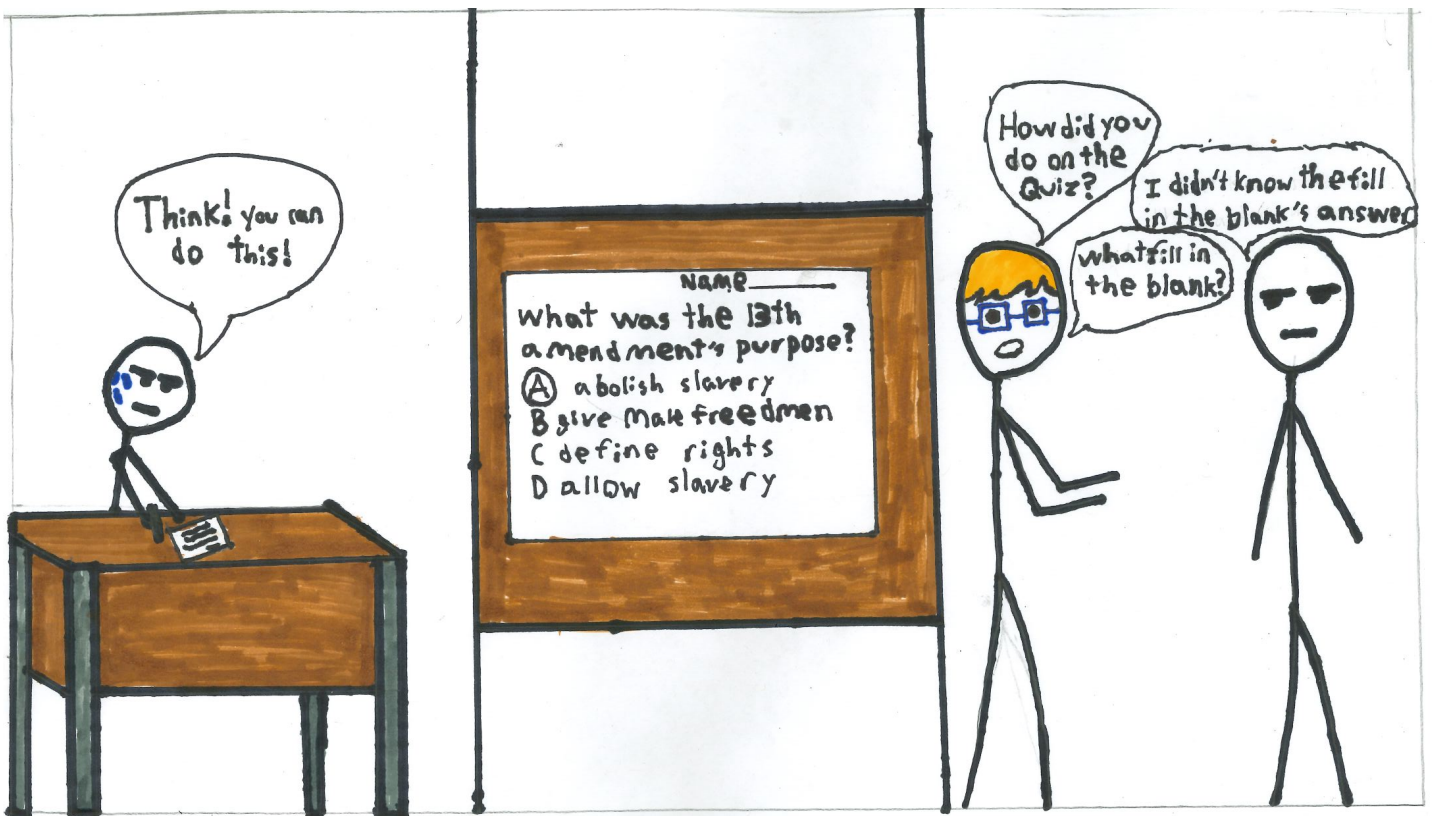
The MBA Junior School wrestling team was looking for consecutive HVAC championships this year after blowing up the championship last year. Even though we might not have been able to do that this year, the team still had a successful season, finishing third in

the HVAC.

The team was ready to go as we won our first match against FRA, and the team did not stop there, as we won our next five matches. The team had an individual tournament and duals that were not a part of the HVAC season, but we still fought hard and put 110% effort into our matches. The Microbe wrestlers eventually had a big match against

BA and even though we lost, the team hoped to rebound for the HVAC championship.

As the championship quickly approached, the team practiced hard and felt confident going into the big match. The microbe wrestling team had a great end to the year as Owen Willers, Elias Franks, and Will Doerflinger won first in their weight classes. Even though these guys were the only first place winners, the team had a great year.



Leonardo Roshichi

The Junior School Diving Season

By Frank Johns

This year the MBA diving team had an incredible season. Although it was only Gabe Lett and I for the vast majority of the season, we played an important role in the results of all of our meets, and practices felt like a larger number of people were on the team. Every day during practice the high schoolers Turner Kirkland, Hagen Tyrone, Alex Ray, and Patrick Powell would drive Gabe and me to practice. In addition to the six of us boys, all of the Harpeth Hall divers (Middle School and Upper School) practice and competed with us. Coach Amy Kennedy, a former diving star, was our coach. I began the diving season knowing nothing but how to do a crooked flip and cannon ball. I ended the diving season knowing how to do a front double flip, an inward one-and-a-half dive, and twister flips. Alex, Patrick, Turner, and Hagen blew me away with their dives, such as front two-and-a-half, double gainer, and many other beautiful dives. Aside from diving, I had fun bonding with everyone throughout the season.

Dive practices are different than a sport like basketball or tennis. A normal dive practice would start by stretching or doing a simple workout like sit-ups. Then, I would go



MTHSSA Divers - Frank Johns and Gabe Lett

through my routine: front dive, one-and-a-half, front flip twist, back flip, and so on. After I did the dive, Amy would help me improve by giving me constructive criticism to make that dive better. If I was ready to learn a new dive, then I would put on a wetsuit and give it a try.

The meets were more fun than the practices. I got to meet new kids my age that go to different schools. The MBA divers were only Gabe and I, but for the HVAC tournament, Faizal Ayesh joined us. A dive meet consists of three parts. First, warm-ups allow us to go through our routines and practice all of our dives like a practice. After warm-ups, the meet begins. During the meets, everyone performs six dives. After I finished my dive, the judges (there were three or five depending on the meet) scored the dive from one to ten on how well the dive went. If someone fails to complete the dive, then that person would get zeros and the dive counts as failed.

If someone has two failed dives, then they are disqualified. The third and final part of the dive meet is when volunteers add all of the scores. Whoever has the highest score wins. Dive meets are fun and laid back events.

We had four different meets. Our first meet was MBA versus Ensworth. This was an easy win due to the fact that Ensworth did not have any divers. I placed first, and Gabe placed second. The next day we had the Ensworth Invitationals which had kids from different clubs, including Baylor. During that meet, I literally flopped on my last dive, so I placed sixth. Our next meet was the regional tournament. For the swim team, this meet meant everything, but for the diving team, only five of us competed. To our surprise, Gabe and I added around thirty points to MBA's score to help MBA win the meet. In that meet, I placed second, and Gabe finished fourth. Our last meet was HVAC. For this meet, we had Faisal's help. To our surprise, we won before we arrived. Once again, there was nobody to dive against, so MBA won first, second, and third and helped the swim team to win by a margin of over 150 points! The meet was a blast and a great way to conclude the season.

Throughout the 2019-2020 dive season, I met new friends, learned to be a better diver, and best of all, had a great time. Through hard work and determination, I learned tricks that I never in my life would have expected to learn. I met great people that I will continue to be friends with. I loved being a part of the dive team and cannot wait to do it next year.

Microbe Swimming

By Hudson Ross

The JS swimmers had a very good season this winter. The swim team was made up of mostly Nashville Aquatic Club swimmers who had their own practices, so the Boost swimmers were able to have their own lanes and lots of helpful coaching. One of my favorite parts of having a small group is not having to share a lane because I did not have to worry about running into people, and I could go at my own pace. The “Boost Squad” practiced Monday through Thursday and sometimes on Fridays. An average practice would go somewhat like this: First, we would do our “ten- ten-ten,” which is ten pushups, ten jumping jacks, and ten squat jumps. Next, it’s in the pool for a warmup of a two-hundred meter freestyle and a one-hundred of our choice. Then, we would do a kicking set with kickboards which consists of six fifties freestyle kick down choice back, and then eight twenty-fives freestyle kick. Then we would do our main set which varies by the day. After that, we would do some starts off the block, relays, and maybe some flip turns. After that, we would end with a fifty cool down. Practice usually is somewhere around a mile long. Boost is right next to a railroad track, so whenever a train comes by, we stop whatever we’re doing and do ten pushups. The last one back in the pool was a rotten egg. The swim team had five meets: LaVergne Middle School Invitational (was technically unscored for some reason), Brentwood Academy, Ensworth, MTHSSA, and HVAC. We won all five in the boys section: BA



2019-2020 Microbe Swimming Team

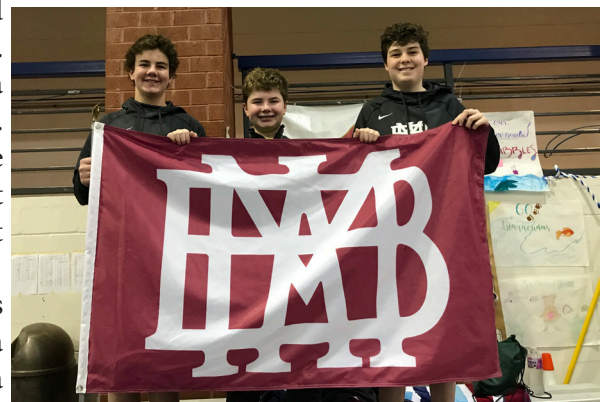
108-56, Ensworth 113-35, MTHSSA, 287-(BA came in second with 217), HVAC- 471(BA came in second with 289). The LHS invitational was a great meet for our team. These were the results: 200* Medley Relay: 1st place - Fielding Staelin, Charlie Coles, Davis Thompson, Carter Plato; 200 Meter Free: 1st place - Fielding Staelin; 50 Free: 1st place - Carter Plato, 5th place - Charlie Coles; 100 Fly: 1st place - Davis Thompson; 100 Free: 3rd Place - Charlie Coles; 100 Back: 2nd place - Davis Thompson; 100 Breastroke: 1st place - Fielding Staelin, 2nd place - Carter Plato; 400 Freestyle Relay: 1st place - Davis Thompson, Charlie Coles, Fielding Staelin, Carter Plato.

The BA meet was also a great meet. We took first, third, and fourth 200 medley relay; first through sixth and eleventh in the 50 free; second and fourth in the 100 fly; first and second in the 100 back; first through third in the 100 breast; and second and third in the 100. The Ensworth meet was a success for the JS and the HS. There were so many people swimming that a snapshot like the last two would not even scratch the surface.

The MTHSSA was a fun meet. There was a preliminary round and a

finals round. The MBA finalists were Maston Ballew, Caleb Dulin, George Emrhein, Oscar Green, Michael Kong, Alex Koziak, Jay Schlosser, and Fielding Staelin. At the finals round, they had an announcer that would commentate on races, and he would say the names of the swimmers. The swimmers who did not make finals made up the MBA cheering section. Finally, the HVAC meet was so much fun because all of the JS swimmers did very well. After an undefeated 5-0 season, the JS swim team, having won two championship meets, is ready for an even better season next year.

*For those who don’t know swimming shorthand 200 = 8 laps, 100 = 4 laps, 50 = 2 laps, Medley relay = back breast fly free, IM = fly back breast free, fly = Butterfly, Back = Backstroke, Breast = Breaststroke, and Free = Freestyle.



JS Soccer A Team

By Graham Smith

The MBA soccer JS A team, coached by Giles Cheevers and Richard Klausner, had an outstanding season. We had a very talented group of people who would leave everything they had out on the pitch. Our main leaders of the group were Richard Aylward, Morgan Holzapfel, and Carson Sberna. All of these players made sure we were focused on the task at hand. Our goalkeeper kept our formation intact and made sure we didn't have too many places they could play into. Our back four consisted of Austin Kunath, Carson Sberna, Scott Cheevers, Nate Holder, and a little bit of Sayan Dalai and Maine Billings. The back four were very strong and aggressive. They made sure that nothing would pass them that could lead to a goal. Our midfield had Richard Aylward, Morgan Holzapfel, and Sayan.



They kept our shape along with the goalkeeper. They were also very strong in distribution to the wide players and even to the back four. Our front three were Colton Erickson, Bennett Tidwell, Benton Brown, and Eli Stark. They led most of the attacks to put pressure on the backs. We had other really big players like Hawkins Russell, Nicholas Leonard, Powell Cummings, Reed Rzasnicki, and Faysal Ayesh. We also had some people that we brought up toward the playoffs. They were Ben Poster, Leeds Nahmias, Max Sonsino, Louis Pickett, and Jordan Dayani. Our team was a very strong, and dedicated team.

The first game we played was against USN. We won against USN even though we had only practiced twice. Our next opponent was Lipscomb Academy. We did not play our best that game. Even though we beat them, it did not feel like a win.

I think one of the closest games we played was against Poplar Grove. The players played hard in that match. We eventually pulled out on top. Our next few games were pretty easy. Then Valor surprised us and made us battle for a win. We did win that game. The only game we tied was against BGA. The score was 1-1. Even though our season was on to a great start heading into the playoffs at 8-1-0, we knew we would still have to play hard for the championship. The first opponent we faced in the playoffs was Lipscomb Academy. It was a hard fought match. We had most of the possession in that game. At the end of the game, the score was 0-0. We went into overtime. At the end of overtime the score was 0-0. We had to go to penalty kicks (PKs). We did not start off well in PKs. We ended up losing in PKs. The players put their hearts and souls into that game. I do not think we really lost that game because they really never had the ball. We had most of the possession, and they were just trying to get to PKs. Did you know that they had to put six defenders in to try and stop us? Next year we hope to bring the trophy home.

The Undefeated Soccer B Team!



C Team Soccer

By Charlie Warner

The soccer season was not a huge success with wins, but I think anyone can agree that we all got better and improved as a team. We started the season with not a lot of practice and were beaten by Ensworth in the first game. After playing Ensworth, we knew we had to work hard and focus to win. In practice we learned lots of teamwork and important skills that are essential to play soccer. Then, we played Donelson Christian and beat them on our turf. We won with good teamwork and executed what we learned in practice on the field. Even though they are younger, we got some confidence and practiced to get better. The next game at Ensworth went better than the first time. We played but we still loss. After that, we played Harding and lost again. Even though we kept losing, we still believed in ourselves and did not give up. In practice we had fun and learned at the same time. We learned how to pass, shoot, and play defense the correct way.

We had two games left and



knew we had to work hard and focus to win these games and make our record 3-3. We played Grace Christain, but we lost the close game. We got better throughout the season, and it was an obvious change. Our team knew that our next game was going to be a tough game against the MBA B team. Our coaches were doing a great job preparing us for all the matches but especially the upcoming one against the B team. The C Team had what it took to beat all the teams that we played Our last game was going to be a challenge to win. In practice, we worked on trying to win one last game. A lot of practices had been canceled, but we had faith that we could win. At the end of the first half, it was a tie, 1-1. Baker Jennings

scored and put a lot of confidence in our team. Entering the second half we had hopes to win this game. At the end of the game, we lost 1-7 but had a great time playing. Our season record was not that good at the end, but we got a lot better from the start to the finish. Hank Cooke was our goalie all season and did a great job. Jack Allen, Baker Jennings, and Daviss Coble had most of our goals. Everyone else did a great job either on the field or with great sportsmanship. Even though our record was bad, we did a great job throughout the season and worked hard.



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A Light-Hearted Moment with the Cast and Crew of Sleepy Hollow

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